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★ MAY 5 1928 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

# KEY ROUTE HEIGHTS NURSERY COMPANY

1928

## CALIFORNIA DAHLIAS

POT GROWN BULBS  
FIELD RIPENED  
OUR SPECIALTY

### OUR CHRYSANTHEMUM CATALOG

PUBLISHED IN FEBRUARY, CONTAINING  
A MOST COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF THE VERY  
LATEST AND BEST IMPROVED VARIETIES  
MAILED ON REQUEST

3852 LOMA VISTA AVENUE  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

## Decorative Dahlias

Large double flowers, full to center, with broad flat, somewhat loosely arranged floral rays with broad points or rounded tips.

Each

**Al Koran**—A beautiful blossom suffused with golden rod and amber. The long petals of this large flower are wavy and the bloom is held high on a long strong stem, which makes it very attractive. \$ .75

**Arrow of Gold**—A refined blossom of pure gold, deepening in the center and shading to a golden apricot and amber at the outer petals. Strong stem and good keeper. ..... 75

**Amun Ra**—The outer petals are gorgeous shades of copper and orange shading to gold and amber, deepening in the center to a rich, dark, reddish bronze with metallic lustre ..... .75

**Amulet**—A very beautiful and satisfactory variety, that blooms early and late, and is always covered with wonderfully fine blossoms. The color is very rare, a rich deep brown, suffused with old rose and gold. The flowers are always large and deep and of the most perfect formation, while the bush is strong and vigorous. One of the most faithful and valuable varieties for all purposes, and should be in every garden. ..... 1.50

**Black Jack**—The color of this dahlia is so dark that it is almost black, though upon close inspection it will be found to be deepest maroon. A strong tall grower with large flowers and excellent stem. ..... .75

**California Superba**—Narrow petals of a delicate shade of pink and shades to a blush center, stem strong and prolific bloomer. A fine cut flower. ..... 1.00

**Champagne**—Color is warm autumn shades, varying from burnished copper to dull golden champagne and chamois. Stem is heavy and holds the massive flower absolutely upright. A prize winner of great quality. ..... .75

**Dawn**—A large exhibition decorative color, a wonderful cream, shading to yellow suffused with shell pink. Flowers held erect on good stiff stems, far above the foliage. Average size eighth to nine inches. ..... 1.00

**Earl Williams**—An immense flower, the base of the petals are crimson with white tips. This is one of the finest and most attractive dahlias ever introduced. ..... .75

**Ellinor Vanderveer**—An incomparable dahlia of exquisite beauty and great size, having every desirable quality. The large blossoms are of a glowing, satiny, rose pink. The flowers are of great depth and substance, and are held far above a tall, sturdy bush, on exceptionally long, stiff stems. One of the very first to bloom in our garden, making it very desirable, where the blooming season is short. ..... 1.00

**El Dorado**—An immense blossom of vivid gold, deepening in the center. This exceptionally fine dahlia of great substance stands well out of the foliage of a low growing bush, on strong erect stems, making it not only an exhibition variety, but an excellent cut flower. ..... 1.00

**Faith Garibaldi**—This immense, deep rose decorative is a flower of great substance and of perfect formation. It does not require heavy disbudding for immense blooms. The stem is exceptionally strong and carries the flower high above the foliage. An excellent keeper and consistent prize winner. ..... 2.00

## DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—(Continued)

Each

<b>Halvella</b> —Old rose pink with a golden sheen, is one of the finest for exhibiting and cutting. These irresistible blossoms of great size, substance and unusual keeping qualities, are held erect on long stiff stems and hold their centers throughout the season. ....	1.00
<b>Jersey's Beacon</b> —(Waite)—We recommend this giant dahlia very highly. A Chinese scarlet with a paler reverse, giving it a two-tone effect. Very good habit and stem. Won silver medal for best new seedling at New York, 1924. ....	2.00
<b>Jersey's Beauty</b> —The most talked of Eastern dahlia. A perfect bloom of Erosine pink, carried high above the foliage on a long wiry stem. This beautiful pink dahlia is a famous prize winner. ....	1.00
<b>Judge Langford</b> —A new Mastick dahlia, flower large, color velvety purple, lined white; a great producer with strong stems ....	.75
<b>Jessie K. Prescott</b> —Deep orange at the center, gradually shading to creamy orange on the rows of outer petals, and illuminated with a violet glow. ....	.75
<b>Junior</b> —An enormous flower of pure lavender, the centers remaining closed throughout the entire season. Good exhibition variety. ....	.50
<b>Katherine Valentine</b> —Flower of medium size, stem long and stiff; color clear salmon tinted orange to center, a fine new cut-flower for the Florist trade. ....	.75
<b>Karma</b> —(Finley-Spencer)—A large beautiful new amaranth pink decorative. Blooms early and late and is of sturdy growth. Won first prize at the State Floral Society show for the best three-year-old seedling. A most artistic bloom for floral art. ....	1.25
<b>Kittie Dunlap</b> —Long firm stems, immense size and great substance. In color like American Beauty rose. ....	.50
<b>King Tut</b> —An extra large blossom of rich, dark, velvety, glowing, crimson burgundy, of fine formation and with closed centers throughout the season. The large, fine blossoms of great substance are held high above strong, medium tall, bushes on extra long stiff stems. A wonderful dahlia, both as an exhibition and cut flower variety. ....	2.50
<b>Leora Creed</b> —A beautiful orange pink decorative. Glowing color, fine foliage, long tough, wiry stems and splendid keeping qualities, it is always the first choice of the cut-flower trade.....	1.00
<b>Meadow Lark</b> —Has shadings of buff and straw, with the reverse side of the florets darker. A very large perfect flower, on extra strong stems, a vigorous grower and great producer, fine for cut-flowers and exhibition .....	.50
<b>Marmion</b> —Truly an immense flower grown on tall bushes. The color is pure golden yellow, with bronze suffusion on reverse of petals, a deeper bronze tone on the high center, outlining each petal. The stems are good and hold the large bloom gracefully above the sturdy plant. ....	3.50

## DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—(Continued)

Each

<b>Mrs. I. De Ver Warner</b> —Very large blossom of a soft orchid, or rich rosy mauve, beautifully formed flower, with long, stiff stems; a prolific bloomer and a fine cut-flower.	.....	.50
<b>Mrs. Eleanor Martin</b> —(Pelicano)—One of the finest decorative yet offered and it is no exaggeration when we describe it as a Giant flower. The blooms average 10 to 11 inches across on a Giant stem, the latter being two feet long and like a cane. The form of the flower is of the best exhibition type, in fact, it combines all the points which go to make a perfect decorative. The color is a beautiful Mulberry suffused with gold; excellent producer, and a good keeper.	.....	1.00
<b>Mrs. Carl Salbach</b> —Lavender pink, with long, straight stems. Unexcelled for exhibition. Consistent prize winner. A lasting cut-flower.	.....	.50
<b>Miss California</b> —(Pelicano)—1926—A large decorative dahlia perfectly formed and of beautiful new color known as Oriental fuchsia. Tall and hardy. Stems strong and stiff. Four to five feet in length. Blooms high above foliage, six to nine inches in diameter. An excellent keeper. Miss California won first prize for six blooms of the best three-year-old seedling at the California State Floral Society, 1925. Flowers early	.....	3.50
<b>M. H. De Young</b> —A beautiful blossom of pure gold with scarcely any variation in color, except perhaps the center is illuminated with a slightly brighter shade. Size and the stem is perfect; blooms profusely all the season. One of the most admired dahlias in our garden and was included in our twelve best Californians.	.....	1.00
<b>Myra Valentine</b> —Golden bronze. Flower is large and attractively formed and carried on stems a yard long.	.....	.50
<b>Nobilis</b> —Brilliant crimson and white are well distributed. A constant early and late bloomer.	.....	.50
<b>Olive Reed</b> —This remarkable dahlia of mammoth size, is of a clear and pure shade of yellow. The massive blooms of great substance, are held erect high above a vigorous bush, on strong, rigid stems. Is wonderfully productive and a great keeper.	.....	3.50
<b>Patty Jane</b> —Lovely bright rose pink blossom with pale delicate pink center. A large flower with long, fine erect stems, and an excellent cut-flower variety.	.....	.50
<b>Paul Michael</b> —Golden orange in color, shading to old rose on reverse of petals. As an exhibition variety this dahlia is a leader.	.....	.50
<b>Polar Bear</b> —A new pure white, with perfect formed flowers on a strong stem. Excellent cut-flower and exhibition variety. A prize winner.	.....	1.00
<b>Queen of the Garden Beautiful</b> —This is really the largest dahlia ever introduced. It is an enormous light yellow. The stems are huge stiff canes which support the big flowers wonderfully. Winner of the S. W. Heller Memorial Prize at the Palace Show, 1925.	.....	5.00
<b>Robert Treat</b> —This beautiful Eastern introduction has been one of the greatest prize winners wherever exhibited in that part of the country. This immense bloom of American Beauty rose color has great substance and is held erect on long strong stems.	.....	1.25

## DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—(Continued)

Each

Rodman Wanamaker—Large blooms in several tones of yellow, with a salmon pink and bronze suffusion. Fine for exhibition .....	1.50
Rose Fallon, D.—(Harding)—Color is deep old gold. Long slender stems. A wonderful cut-flower and exhibition variety. ....	2.50
Rosa Nell—A bright clear rose, beautiful foliage, strong stems. ....	.50
Rookwood—A pure bright cerise rose. The flowers are immense, and are held on stiff stems well above a low growing, spreading bush. ....	.50
Sagamore—A large, perfect flower, of pure gold, deepening toward the center to a rich reddish apricot. ....	1.00
Salbach's White—The most perfectly formed white dahlia we have ever grown. Its unusually perfect formation and waxy appearance make it an outstanding and much admired variety. The stems are perfect and hold these fine, large white flowers proudly erect. A fine keeper, the ideal white for the florist trade. ....	4.00
Sanhicans Gem—A delicate shade of old rose, thickly suffused with amber in the young state. At maturity it is a clear old rose shade. Petals are long and thickly placed. ....	1.00
Senorita—A rich velvety crimson. Each bloom held absolutely erect on extra strong stems, measures from 9 to 10 inches across; of perfect form until late in the season. A prize winner. ....	.75
Shudow's Lavender—Very large silvery lavender, shading to white. The stems are perfect and hold the blooms high above the plant. The lavender becomes deeper late in the season, making the flower very attractive. ....	1.00
Shirley Oliver—This beautiful blossom of immense size is of a lovely light rose pink, with yellow at base of the long petals. This fine flower is held proudly erect on exceedingly long, straight stiff stems. A prize winner of great beauty. ....	1.50
Siskiyou—A truly sensational dahlia that grows to immense size without any effort whatsoever. We have grown Siskiyou to fourteen inches in diameter. The stems are stiff as rods, and the flower is a very attractive pink, with a suggestion of mauve. A prize winner of great merit. ....	1.50
Susan G. Tevis—An exceptional dahlia with a distinctive new color tone of a deep shade of lilac with a bluish sheen. A very graceful bloom of fine depth and great size held high above a vigorous plant. The stems are long and strong. ....	1.00
Tommy Atkins—Flowers of flaming scarlet that fairly glisten in the sunlight. Like a cane and the blooms are held proudly erect. The stem is very stiff. ....	.75
Trentonian—A giant decorative in a wonderful blending of old gold, amber, and coppery bronze, the whole forming a flower of marvelous brilliancy, with a center of reddish bronze. Perfect stems	2.00
The Wizard of Oz—A rare shade of glowing amber pink, of soft salmon shades and held high on strong stems. One of the finest exhibition and cut-flower dahlias. ....	.75

## HYBRID CACTUS DAHLIAS

Have broad and massive petals. Many of the largest dahlias are of this type. They are excellent for cut flowers, and being a hardy variety, do well in almost any climate.

	Each
Ambassador—A soft yellow buff, shaded salmon pink. Fine for exhibition.	\$1.00
Amber Glow—A clear yellow, shading to pale orange at center	.75
Bears Claws—An immense American Cactus of a ruby red, tipped a decided tan shade.	.50
Claremont—Soft rose pink with cream shadings. Extra long stiff stems. A prize winner.	.50
Cigarette—A very good full petalled cactus. Color, a combination of creamy white and orange.	.75
Daddy Butler—An attractive shade of the American Beauty Rose shades or rose carmine; a fine erect habit.	.75
Gladys Bates—Large blooms, of incurved petals of tan, with a reverse of rose.	1.00
El Granada—Hybrid Cactus, with very large flowers of vivid orange with creamy yellow reverse. Excellent stem. A gold medal variety and constant prize winner.	1.25
Elsie Oliver—A strong grower of a beautiful creamy pink.	.50
Insulinda—Very large orange buff, overlaid with a golden sheen, shading to orange.	.50
Islam Patrol—Very dark velvety scarlet, tipped and flushed with pure gold. This dahlia should be in every garden as it has wonderful qualities. A prize winner of great beauty.	1.00
J. W. Davis—Deep shade of cerise at center, gradually shading to a lighter tint. A very large flower that holds its center throughout the season.	.50
Mariposa—A distinct shade of pink; the flowers are large and deep; the growth strong, stem wiry; good throughout the season.	.75
Papillon—A beautiful shade of old rose with golden lights. An incessant bloomer. Stems are strong and long, and carry the flower well.	1.00
Rollo Boy—Color, a delicate amber, shading to old gold. Flowers carried erect on strong stems. A prize winner.	1.00
Silverado—(Seal)—Without doubt the largest dahlia of its class ever produced. The immense blooms are of white, gradually shading toward the center to a delicate silvery lavender. The stems are extra long and strong, the tall, well branched bushes are always covered with these huge, feathery blooms.	5.00
Sunmaid—A very gorgeous blending of orange and gold. The flowers are huge, of the "Insulinde" formation, a great depth, and are borne on extra strong stems.	1.50
Sole Mio—The color is deep yellow suffused with Apricot. The flowers are held high on excellent stems, and have good substance. Fine for exhibition, a gold medal prize winner.	2.00

### PEONY-FLOWERED DAHLIAS

Are of immense size, usually of one to three rows of long flat or twisted and pointed petals, showing a large open yellow center.	<b>Each</b>
Alma Davis—Salmon pink shading to deep old rose and apricot. A winner of first prizes in California and Eastern Shows.	.75
Albert Ward—An immense flower of deep purple.....	.50
Blossom—Immense flowers of white with a faint pink at the base of the petals. Perfect exhibition flower.	1.00
Gorgeous—Yellow shading to bright scarlet. Fine for exhibition and cut flowers.	.75
El Pajaro—A beautiful large pink, the base of the petals is a bright golden yellow which is also slightly suffused through the flower; the best Dahlia in its class we have ever grown.	1.25
Mrs. Jessie Seal—Pink, great attraction; very superior.	.50
The Oriole—Burnt orange, red and yellow. Some flowers on the bush are tipped white. A perfect exhibition flower with good stems.	.75

### CACTUS DAHLIA

The Cactus Dahlias described below are of the true type. They have the long narrow pointed petals. When exhibiting for competition, they must have perfectly closed centers.	<b>Each</b>
A. R. Perry—Old rose, tipped with gold, with long, narrow, incurved petals.	.50
Ballet Girl—The biggest percentage of the flowers are orange with a white center.	.50
Curlew—Lavender rose color. Massive full flowers, very long florets, incurving over center.	.50
Silverhill Park—A beautiful new white, large in size, incurved in form and with a perfect center.	.75
Herbret Raby—Wine crimson huge flowers. Long narrow incurving petals; good exhibition cactus.	.50
Union Jack—A striking novelty. Large red incurved petals, tipped white. A very attractive dahlia.	.75

### POMPON DAHLIAS

The Pompon Dahlias are the finest for cut flowers; blooms are small, compact and full to the center, and produced upon long, wiry stems.	<b>Each</b>
Amber Queen—Golden amber.	.25
Anita—New, old rose, small and free flowering.	.50
Candy Kid—Coral pink shaded lavender.	.35
Daisy—Amber shading to apricot.	.35
Joe Fette—An exceedingly fine white.	.50
Little David—(New)—The deepest shade of orange.	.50
Little Irene—Clear canary yellow.	.25
Little Lloyd—Burnt orange to amber.	.35
Little Jewell—(Miniature Decorative)—2 inches in diameter, pure peach blossom pink; wonderful keeper, one of the best.	.50

### COLLARETTE DAHLIAS

Have a single row of eight petals, like the single dahlia, with a collar of small narrow petals around the yellow center.	<b>Each</b>
Abbe Hugonard—Purple edged; collar white.	.50
Ami Nonin—A beautiful flower shaded old rose.	.35
Aunt Dinah—Maroon, with a collar of lighter tint	.35
Geant De Lyon—An enormous flower of velvety maroon with a long, white collar	.50
Herald—Large, rich, rosy pink with white collar	.35
The Marksman—Light ground splashed with crimson	.35
Wm. Welsh—One of the largest and best Collarettes. A beautiful creamy yellow	.75

### SHOW AND HYBRID SHOW DAHLIAS

These Dahlias are the closely quilled ball-shaped varieties.	<b>Each</b>
Clara Seaton—Color is a rich golden bronze, with a beautiful quilled petals	.35
General Haig—Best scarlet show. Remarkably fine	.35
General Miles—An enormous flower. Color light violet, striped and spotted with purplish magenta	.50
Gold Medal—Fancy, bright lemon yellow, regularly striped dark crimson	.50
Tom Jones—A very beautiful shade of cream, tipped pink. Stems and form is perfect.	.50

# To Our Customers

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We take great pleasure in presenting you with our new Dahlia Catalog for 1928. We do not list a large collection, but such varieties only that have been selected for their superiority in color, perfection of form, length and stiffness of stem, continuous blooming, etc. We list only novelties, and standard varieties of real merit, based on actual experience and personal observation.

We specialize on pot-grown Bulbs, grown under the most favorable climatic conditions. They will produce for you more perfect blooms, than the field-grown tuber.

Bulbs and green plants will give equally good results.

We supply bulbs after December 15th, pot-grown plants from May 15th to September.

**ORDER EARLY.** As orders are received stock will be reserved and sent at proper time.

**IN COMPARING OUR PRICES** with other Dahlia lists you will find it pays to buy from the grower direct.

**TERMS:**—Remittance with order, or in advance of shipment. All retail orders are Parcel Post pre-paid. Wholesale orders are F. O. B. Oakland.

We guarantee all bulbs true to name, and cheerfully replace any that should prove otherwise. Kindly notify us at once. Orders are carefully filled from selected pot-grown Bulbs. We do not substitute unless requested, but it is mutually agreed between the purchaser and ourselves that we shall at no time be liable for an amount larger than the original purchase price.

## **Key Route Heights Nursery Company**

3852 LOMA VISTA AVENUE  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

L. Nelson, Manager

# IMPORTANT

## How to care for Pot Bulb Tubers when received.

We advise placing the Pot Bulbs in shallow boxes, well drained, cover with leaf mold or pine shavings, keep moderately moist in a temperature at about 55 degrees till planting time. Handled in this manner and with ordinary care in the garden will produce an abundance of blooms of superior quality.



## **Special Offers**

We are making this special offer to introduce our Bulbs where they have not yet been tried, and prove their superior blooming qualities, the first season in any climate. Each Bulb carefully selected and labeled true to name—no two alike. All our selections have 12 guaranteed tubers in each collection, carefully balanced as to color and are made up of large Dahlias only, from varieties that can be found in our Catalog. These collections are \$5.00, \$7.50 and \$10.00, each postpaid.



## TESTIMONIALS

Clayton, Missouri.

It is with pleasure that I thank you for shipment of tubers received. The lot arrived in excellent condition. You may rest assured we will remember you on future orders.

M. W. F. Co.

Gladstone, Oregon.

Dahlia bulbs received in first class condition, and a splendid good lot of bulbs. Permit me to thank you for the extras.

MRS. F. T. B.

Auburn, Rhode Island.

Dahlia plants received. They were on the way just five days. I wish to say that it would be almost impossible to procure as good plants, or have them as well packed.

W. S.

WHEELING, West Virginia.

This was my first season to try your Dahlia Pot Bulbs and to say they were satisfactory, is putting it mildly. In every way they were the best stock I have in my plot this year.

T. A. C.

New Britain, Connecticut.

I simply had to drop you a line about the Dahlias I got from you last spring. We had a poor year, but everyone that saw mine, said they were the best anywhere.

O. F. G.

Groveport, Ohio.

The pot bulbs I got from you last spring have produced wonderful plants and given us a great amount of joy.

L. N.

# Cultivation of Dahlias

Dahlias are easily grown, requiring no special soil, or treatment, to bring them to perfection. They love an open sunny location, but succeed in partial shade. Prepare the soil thoroughly by digging 12 to 18 inches deep, possibly in the fall and then again in the spring, before planting.

If the soil is poor, work in some well rotted stable manure, or artificial fertilizer, but don't overdo this.

Dig the holes 3 feet apart, and about 6 inches deep; drive a stout stake in each hole, and place bulbs close to the stake, eyes showing upward, and cover with two or three inches of fine soil, leaving the hole to be filled after the plant comes up.

Plant anytime between April 1st and June 15th.

When the plants have made their third set of leaves, cut out the top to make them branch.

The most important thing from now on is hoeing and cultivating the soil, until the buds appear; then give the beds a good mulching of manure, to keep the ground moist; and water the plants thoroughly once or twice a week.

If thrips appear, spray with a nicotine solution. It should be done four times at intervals of four days; after which the plants can be kept clean by spraying them with a strong pressure of water through the garden hose. Some good growers, soon as the shoots come through, spray every week to be sure to keep them away.

**MILDEW**—Is usually caused by sudden extremes in the temperature or extremes in wet and dry soils or growing the plants too close together. Dahlias like air and sunshine.

**REMEDY**—Dust freely with flower of sulphur in the morning while the dew is on the leaves.

**RED SPIDER**—It can never appear if overhead watering is practiced. When it does come, flower of sulphur is the remedy.

Many of the best dahlia growers sprinkle their dahlia plants nearly every night in hot weather to keep all insect pests away, but do not sprinkle after October 1st.

To have large blooms it is absolutely necessary to disbud, leaving only one bud to each shoot; but leave two young sprouts near the base of each stem, so as to insure a new crop of blooms. Dahlias will continue to bloom until the frost kills the tops; the tubers are dug and stored in a dry cellar or basement, cover them with dry sand, soil or sawdust, to keep from shriveling. Divide the tubers in the spring after the eyes show plainly, being careful that each tuber has an eye. Cover them again and keep dry until planted.

## HOW TO KEEP CUT BLOOMS OF DAHLIAS

Cut the flowers in the evening if possible, and before the pollen has too well developed. Burn the ends of the stems on a gas flame; or better still, for exhibition purposes, dip ends of stems in boiling water for about 12 seconds and immediately plunge in fresh cold water. Place in cool place or out of doors for the night.

Should dahlias be picked in the day time, put the stems in a pitcher containing three inches of boiling water and leave there for 15 minutes. Then remove to a deep vase of fresh, cold water. The less foliage the better. Wilted flowers may often be revived in the same manner.

## KEY ROUTE HEIGHTS NURSERY COMPANY

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L. Nelson, Manager